

APPENDIX N

MARCH 13, 1998

LETTER FROM DR. BERNARD ROSTKER TO HON. JOHN D.
ROCKEFELLER, IV



THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON

MAY 13 1997

The Honorable John D. Rockefeller IV
Ranking Member
Committee on Veterans' Affairs
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Rockefeller:

Enclosed is our monthly report on the status of Persian Gulf Theater veterans' claims pending at our Area Processing Offices.

The Compensation and Pension Service has prepared the enclosed fact sheet to provide you with the information you requested as of **April 1997**. We will continue to furnish you this information each month.

Copies of this report are also being sent to selected members of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, the House Veterans' Affairs Committee (HVAC), the HVAC Subcommittee on Benefits, and the Senate Majority and Minority Leaders.

Inquiries regarding this information may be directed to Ms. Kristine A. Moffitt, Director, Compensation and Pension Service, at (202) 273-7203.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jesse Brown". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Jesse Brown

Enclosures

JB/lf

FACT SHEET ADDRESSING THE INQUIRY FROM
THE HONORABLE JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER IV

INFORMATION AS OF APRIL 1997

ISSUE: The Senator has asked for a monthly report on the number of allowed, disallowed and pending Persian Gulf War veterans' disability cases in which the veteran attributes environmental agents as the cause for the claimed disability, broken down by area processing office.

PGW THEATER COMPENSATION CLAIMS

Total Claims	85,823	
Total Determined to be SC	66,696	(78%)
Receiving Compensation	28,580	(33%)
SC Zero Percent	38,116	(44%)
No SC Disability	19,127	(22%)

ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARD CLAIMS PENDING

CLAIMS PENDING AT THE AREA PROCESSING OFFICES

Eastern Area	1,277
Central Area	2,038
Southern Area	5,187
Western Area	1,249
TOTAL	9,751

CLAIMS PENDING DEVELOPMENT AT REGIONAL OFFICES

Eastern Area	646
Central Area	629
Southern Area	1,881
Western Area	1,056
TOTAL	4,212

(May 1997)

ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARD CLAIMS RATED

AREA	TOTAL CLAIMS	SERVICE CONNECTION GRANTED	DISALLOWED
Eastern	1,785	214	1,571
Central	2,521	363	2,158
Southern	5,567	551	5,016
Western	1,982	626	1,356
NATIONAL	11,855	1,754	10,101

UNDIAGNOSED CLAIMS RATED [NOTE: This is a subset of Environmental Hazard cases.]

If all issues in a claim cannot be granted under 38 U.S.C. 1110 (direct causal basis), 38 U.S.C. 1112 (presumptions) or 38 U.S.C. 1153 (aggravation), it is then considered under Public Law 103-446 for undiagnosed conditions.

AREA	TOTAL CLAIMS REVIEWED	S/C GRANTED UNDER PL 103-446	S/C NOT GRANTED UNDER PL 103-446
Eastern	1,514	116	1,398
Central	2,254	129	2,125
Southern	5,225	251	4,974
Western	1,657	338	1,319
NATIONAL	10,650	834	9,816

DISTRIBUTION OF CLAIMS WHERE S/C WAS NOT GRANTED UNDER PL 103-446:

Reason for Disallowance	Eastern	Central	Southern	Western	Total
1. Diagnosed Illness	311	570	708	476	2,065
2. Illness not Chronic	76	47	106	55	284
3. Due to Other Etiology	10	13	50	26	99
4. Not manifest on Active Duty or During Presumptive Period	428	1,046	2,769	192	4,435
5. Not shown by evidence of record	563	445	1,306	518	2,832
6. Undiagnosed, less than 10%	10	4	35	52	101
TOTAL	1,398	2,125	4,974	1,319	9,816

Area numbers may change based on movement of veterans between jurisdictions.

(May 1997)